

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 TRSE-00 /059 W
-----001203 022314Z /64

R 020823Z FEB 78
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9822
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUNICH 00632

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: STRAUSS AGREES WITH DREGGER'S CAREFUL COALITION
OFFER TO FDP

1. A CLOSE LIEUTENANT OF CSU CHAIRMAN FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS HAS INDICATED TO CONGEN THAT STRAUSS APPLAUDS HESSIAN CDU CHAIRMAN ALFRED DREGGER'S TACTIC OF OFFERING FDP THE PROSPECT OF COALITION IN HESSE FOLLOWING 1978 LANDTAG ELECTIONS THERE.
2. THE STRAUSS LIEUTENANT VIEWS DREGGER'S OFFER AS A CALCULATED EFFORT TO PUT HESSIAN FDP ON SPOT BY COMPELLING IT TO MAKE PUBLIC RESPONSE WHICH WOULD EITHER: (A) REVEAL DEGREE TO WHICH FDP IS TIED TO SPD; OR (B) LEAVE DOOR OPEN N TO POSSIBILITY OF COALITION WITH CDU, THEREBY SIGNALING VOTERS THAT FDP DOES NOT REPEAT NOT CONSIDER DREGGER SUCH H A REACTIONARY AFTER ALL.

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3. COMMENT. STRAUSS AND HIS CLOSE LIEUTENANTS SEE CONSIDERABLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT THEY CONSIDER OPPOSITION LEADER HELMUT KOHL'S POLICY OF INSINUATING HIMSELF AND CDU INTO FDP'S FAVOR (ANBIEDERUNG) AND DREGGER'S TACTIC OF PUTTING FDP INTO POSITION OF HAVING TO MAKE HARD CHOICES.
BETTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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